WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method of programming a floating gate transistor, the floating gate transistor comprising a source of a first conductivity type, a drain of a second conductivity type, the source and drain formed in a semiconductor region of a third conductivity type and spaced apart by a channel, a floating gate extending over at least a portion of the channel, and a control gate extending over at least a portion of the floating gate, the method comprising the steps of:

    biasing the control gate of said transistor with a first voltage;

    biasing the source of said transistor with a second voltage that is less than the first voltage; and

    applying a programming voltage to the drain of said transistor, the programming voltage being substantially equal to the second voltage to program the floating gate to a logic "1" and being substantially zero to program the floating gate to a logic "0."

2.   A flash EEPROM memory array comprising:

    a plurality of memory cells arranged in a matrix of rows and columns, each memory cell including:

    a portion of a semiconductor substrate of a first conductivity type;

    a drain region of a second conductivity type formed into said substrate;

    a source region of said second conductivity type formed in said substrate in spaced alignment with said drain region with a channel region therebetween, said source region having a more abrupt profile grade relative to the surface of said substrate than said drain region;

    a first gate insulation formed on said major surface of said substrate and having a first thickness;

    a floating gate electrode formed on said first gate insulation and asymmetrically located over said channel region and having a portion over both drain and source regions wherein a greater portion is over the source region than the drain region;

    a second gate insulation formed on said floating gate and having a second thickness greater than said first thickness;

17   a control gate electrode formed on said second gate insulation and

18 overlapping said floating gate electrode, said control gate electrode extending from said

19 cell to adjacent cells in a column;

20   means connecting said drain regions of said plurality of memory cells in an

21 array of columns;

22   means connecting said control gate electrodes of said plurality of memory

23 cell in an array of rows, said rows substantially perpendicular to said columns; and

24   means connecting said source regions to a common source, wherein

25 programming of a cell to a high state is by applying a positive bias to said common

26 source and to said means connecting said control gate electrodes associated with said cell,

27 to inject a charge from the source region into the floating gate through the first gate

28 insulation, and wherein erasing of a cell is by applying a high voltage to the common

29 source when the control gate electrode is grounded and the drain region is floating.

1   3.   In a flash EEPROM array, wherein said array comprises a plurality

2 of memory cells arranged in a matrix of rows and columns, each memory cell including a

3 portion of a semiconductor substrate of a first conductivity type; a drain region of a

4 second conductivity type formed into said substrate; a source region of said second

5 conductivity type formed into said substrate in spaced alignment with said drain region

6 with a channel region therebetween, said source region having a more abrupt profile

7 grade relative to the surface of said substrate than said drain region, a first gate insulation

8 formed on said major surface of said substrate and having a first thickness; a floating gate

9 electrode formed on said first gate insulation and asymmetrically located over said

10 channel region and having a portion over both drain and source regions wherein a greater

11 portion is over the source region; a second gate insulation formed on said floating gate

12 and having a second thickness greater than said first thickness; a control gate electrode

13 formed on said second gate insulation and overlapping said floating gate electrode, said

14 control gate electrode extending from said cell in one direction to adjacent cells in a

15 column; means connecting said drain regions of said plurality of memory cells in an array

16 of columns; means connecting said control gate electrodes of said plurality of memory

17 cell in an array of rows, said rows substantially perpendicular to said columns; and means

18 connecting said source regions to a common source, a method of programming a cell in

19 said EEPROM array comprising:

20   selecting a cell for programming to a high state or a "low" state, wherein

21   said cell is associated with one of a plurality of means connecting said control gate

22   electrodes and one of a plurality of means connecting said drain regions;

23   applying to said means connecting said source regions a first voltage;

24   applying to the selected means connecting said control gate a second voltage;

25   applying to the selected means connecting said drain regions a third

26   voltage substantially equal to said second voltage if said floating gate transistor is to be

27   programmed to a "high" state, and grounding said drain if said floating gate transistor is

28   to be programmed to a "low" state; and

29   floating all other means not associated with said selected cell.

1   4.   A method of programming a floating gate transistor, said floating

2   gate transistor comprising a source, a drain spaced apart from said source, said source and

3   drain being of a first conductivity type and formed in a semiconductor region of a second

4   conductivity type, a channel extending between said source and drain, a floating gate

5   extending over at least a portion of said channel, and a control gate extending over at least

6   a portion of said floating gate, said method comprising the steps of:

7   applying a first voltage to said gate;

8   applying a second voltage to said source; and

9   applying to said drain a third voltage substantially equal to said second

10   voltage if said floating gate transistor is to be programmed to a "high" state and

11   grounding said drain if said floating gate transistor is to be programmed to a "low" state.

1   5.   The method of programming a floating gate transistor according to

2   claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

3   grading said source greater than said drain;

4   diffusing said source with impurities to increase its conductivity relative to

5   said semiconductor region.

1   6.   A flash memory, comprising:

2   a plurality of floating gate transistors, each transistor having a control gate

3   a floating gate, a drain and a source, said plurality arranged in an N-row by M-column

4   array, where N and M are integers greater than or equal to one;

5   N word lines, each word line connecting together the control gates of

6   transistors in a common and corresponding row; and

10

7   M bit lines, each bit line connecting together the drains of transistors in a
8   common and corresponding column,

9   wherein a specific floating gate transistor of the plurality is selected and
10   programmed by applying a first voltage to the control gates of the transistors in the row in
11   which the specific transistor is disposed, applying a second voltage to the source of the
12   specific transistor and grounding the drain of the specific transistor.

1   7.   The flash memory of claim 6, wherein the sources of all transistors
2   are connected together as a common source.

1   8.   The flash memory of claim 6, wherein the second voltage is greater
2   than ground potential.

1   9.   The flash memory of claim 6, wherein the source of each transistor
2   comprises a first doped region having a first conductivity type extending into a
3   semiconductor substrate having a second conductivity type of a charge opposite to the
4   first conductivity type, thereby forming a first p-n junction.

1   10.   The flash memory of claim 9, wherein the drain of each transistor
2   comprises a second doped region of the first conductivity type, which is laterally spaced
3   from the first doped region and extends into the substrate, thereby forming a second p-n
4   junction.

1   11.   The flash memory of claim 10, wherein the first doped region is a
2   double-diffused region comprising a first sub-region of a first dopant and a second sub-
3   region of a second dopant species, the first and second dopant species being of the first
4   conductivity type.

1   12.   The flash memory of claim 11, wherein the first doped region
2   extends deeper into the substrate than the first doped region.

1   13.   The flash memory of claim 12, wherein the floating gate of each
2   transistor is disposed vertically above and interposed between an oxide layer and the
3   substrate such that the first doped region horizontally overlaps the floating gate to a
4   greater extent than a horizontal overlap of the second doped region.